

شكرًا لصداقة أهل

JORDAN TIMES

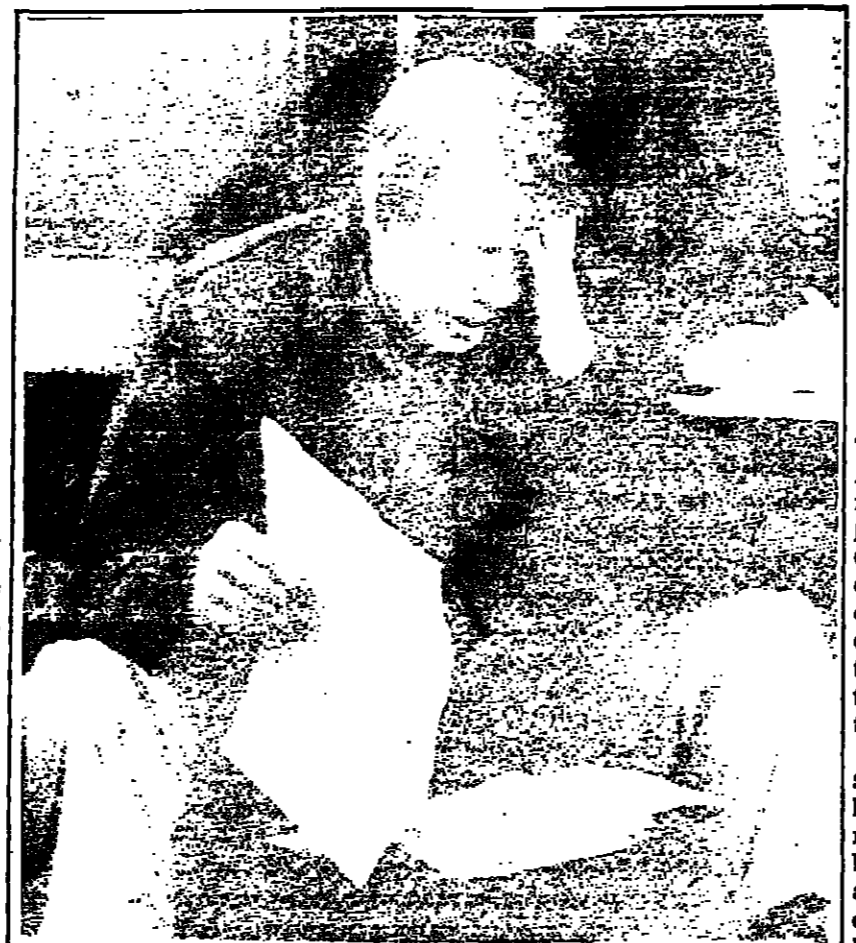
An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردين نعيم يومية سياسية تصدر بالانكليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية « الراي »

AMMAN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1977 — MOHARRAM 17, 1397

Ford warns of U.S. energy orgy
WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (R). — President Ford today made a last-ditch effort to end what a senior official called an energy orgy by the American people, and to speed up development of substitutes for foreign oil. Mr. Ford warned in a message to Congress that increasing dependence on foreign oil threatened the security of American states and its leadership role in the world. His message urged Congress to pass items left over from legislation he recommended last year to increase domestic oil and coal output, develop solar and nuclear energy and improve conservation measures.

Carter proposes huge tax rebate
PLAINS, Georgia, Jan. 7 (R). — President-elect Jimmy Carter today proposed giving American taxpayers a big rebate as part of a \$30 billion programme to stimulate the U.S. economy. The two-year economic package includes a tax rebate of between \$7 and \$11 billion, and extra funds for public works projects this year totalling \$6 billion. One of Mr. Carter's aides estimated that the plan would provide jobs for 800,000 people and reduce the unemployment rate of 8.1 per cent by between three quarters and one per cent.

Wednesday deadline for collecting arms
Sarkis orders PLA to quit Lebanon
TRUT, Jan. 7 (Agencies). — Lebanese President Elias Sarkis today ordered regular troops of the Palestine Liberation Army out of Lebanon by Jan. 13. President Sarkis warned that a 30,000-strong Arab League peace-keeping force, composed mainly of Syrians, would be used if necessary to make sure the Palestinian troops complied. Military observers estimate the length of the regular Palestinian army at 10,000 men. The decision was taken at a meeting today of the Arab Truce Supervisory Committee, responsible for the application of the 1969 Cairo agreement on the presence of the Palestinians in Lebanon. The committee chaired by President Sarkis is composed of representatives of Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The committee also set a deadline for the various Lebanese factions and the Palestinian commandos to collect heavy arms into depots under peace force supervision, President Sarkis said in a communique. The communique added that the force would be asked to form any place where heavy weapons were being kept outside approved areas after the deadline. Yesterday the Syrian member of the committee, Col. Mohammad Kholi, said the collection of heavy arms was "fundamental and essential" for the re-establishment of security. The committee is to meet again Jan. 13 to study compliance with today's two orders the presidential communique said. The peace-keeping troops today opened some of the roads closed yesterday between the west and east of Beirut. An official communique said the decision was taken after a considerable improvement in security. The rightwing "Lebanese Front" announced here today it would respond positively to the decision the Arab Truce supervisory



THE FUN IS OVER -- President-elect Jimmy Carter studies facts and figures given to him Thursday by his economic advisors at a meeting in Plains Georgia. (AP wirephoto).

Israeli Labour Party platform committee against Palestinian state, talks with PLO

TEL AVIV, Jan. 7 (Agencies). — A Labour Party committee hammering out political planks in the party's election platform has reached general agreement against either the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank or negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), committee members said here today. The chairman summed up the second meeting of the committee held this morning, saying that Israel would not agree to the establishment of a "third state" in the area of the original British mandate over Palestine (the present Israel, occupied West Bank and Jordan). But he added there was general agreement that Israel was prepared to make "territorial concessions" on the West Bank, in return for "real peace". Participants said Defence Minister Shimon Peres had pressed for "functional divisions" on the West Bank rather than withdrawing from any part of it. He said he was opposed to any negotiations with any Palestinian organisation. Only one member, Yitzhak Navon, refused to join the others in opposing talks with the PLO. Mr. Navon heads the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of the Israeli Knesset. Commerce and Industry Minister Haim Bar-Lev, on the other hand, said the party platform should call for territorial concessions on all fronts (including Sinai, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights). The committee is to continue its debate before presenting a draft platform to the party convention next month. Sources close to the party said opposition to an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank was based on the supposition that such a state would not be viable and would seek to "expand its frontiers". At the same time, the sources explained that the committee's attitude reflected fears that the state could serve as a base for guerrilla activities against Israel. Another pet fear prompting the party's position was that the new Palestinian state might easily come under the influence of the Soviet Union and the idea of a Soviet base only a few kilometres from the Israeli capital is something that gives almost all Israeli politicians goose pimples. Party leaders also opposed an independent state because, in order to obtain so called "defensible frontiers", Israel would want to hang on to about one-third of the territory on the West Bank and they feel that the fledgling Palestinian state could not be realistically expected to agree to this amputation, the sources said. The sources explained that the committee was assuming that a Jordanian-Palestinian state which received a part of the Gaza Strip and thus obtained a Mediterranean port could be amenable to negotiations on "defensible frontiers". The sources added that there was general agreement that any Middle East peace agreement must guarantee that the West Bank and the Gaza territory are almost entirely demilitarised because they are so close to centres vital to Israel's existence. The sources said, party leaders felt no separate Palestinian state could accept this. They hope however that a federated Jordanian-Palestinian state which could keep its forces on the East Bank might agree to this demilitarisation. Finally, the sources said, Labour leaders recognised that it would be impossible to settle all Palestinian refugees on the West Bank and in Gaza because the 4,000 sq. kms of the region was too small to hold them. With proper aid, they could be resettled in a federated state with an area of roughly 90,000 kms, the sources explained. The Labour Party view came under sharp attack, however, from the party's former Secretary General Ariel Eliav, who is a leader of the Israeli National Council for Peace between Israel and Palestine. He said today any plan involving the integration of Palestinians into Jordan was "utopian" and that Israel should deal first with the Palestinians "and then see how this new Palestinian state fits into a larger context."

Regarding Palestinian state

Rabin throws cold water on Sadat's proposal

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (R). — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in an interview broadcast tonight, described as a "slight nuance" Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's proposal that a new Palestinian state be linked to Jordan. Mr. Sadat's suggestion, in a Dec. 29 interview in the Washington Post, was regarded by some observers as a possible way of meeting Israel's demand that any Palestinian homeland should be part of Jordan rather than an independent state on Israeli borders. But asked by television interviewer Martin Agronsky whether the proposal represented a significant shift in Egypt's position, Mr. Rabin said: "Not at all. I believe that basically Sadat's position about what should be the terms of an overall settlement have not been changed. I have seen a slight nuance in what he said." Mr. Rabin said Israel was opposed to creation of a third state between itself and Jordan and reiterated the Israeli position that "within Jordan, a Jordanian-Palestinian state should be created." He said Israel was willing to withdraw from occupied Arab lands on the West Bank of the Jordan, in the Golan Heights and in Sinai, but it would not pull all the way back to its 1967 borders on any of these fronts. Mr. Rabin was interviewed in his office in west Jerusalem last week, a few days after Mr. Sadat granted a similar interview to Mr. Agronsky. Both interviews were broadcast tonight. Mr. Sadat supported the creation of an independent Palestinian state. Mr. Sadat disclosed that he and Syrian President Hafez Assad had discussed the possibility of returning to the Geneva conference on the Middle East -- which met in December 1973 -- with a single Arab delegation including the Palestine Liberation Organisation. But he said Israel must agree that the Palestinians could participate in the renewed conference "either on equal level or in any delegation." Israel has voiced a willingness for some Palestinians, preferably the mayors of Israeli-occupied towns, to be a part of the Jordanian delegation. Mr. Rabin said Israel was only ready to return to Geneva to meet the participants invited to the first meeting -- Egypt, Jordan and Syria (though Syria did not in fact attend), under the co-chairmanship of the United States and Soviet Union.

Arafat confers with Syrian leaders

DAMASCUS, Jan. 7 (AFP). — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman Yasser Arafat met here today with Syrian leaders, the Palestine Wafa news agency reported. Mr. Arafat, who arrived last night from Beirut, talked with Syrian Army Chief of Staff Gen. Hikmat Al Shehaby, Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier Abdel Halem Khaddam, and Syrian armed forces chief Gen. Najf Jamil, the agency said. It gave no details of what the talks were about.

Kuwaiti F.M. leaves for Riyadh with full satchel

TRIPOLI, Jan. 7 (R). — Kuwait Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Mubarak Al Sabah flies to Riyadh tomorrow to attend a meeting on Sunday of the Arab confederation states and their financial backers, officials said here today. He will be accompanied by the head of the Foreign Ministry's Finance and Administration Department, Mr. Abdul Mohsin Al Duwailan, they added. Informed sources said here yesterday the Riyadh meeting would discuss the failure of some Arab oil producers to meet fully their aid commitments to the confrontation states last year and to ensure that these are met in the new year. The oil producers were reported to have agreed at the Arab summit conference in Rabat, Morocco, in 1974 to provide Egypt and Syria with \$1 billion a year each over four years and to provide Jordan with \$300 million and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) with \$50 million a year. Officials said here today Sheikh Sabah was carrying a file to the Riyadh meeting detailing Kuwait's financial aid to the confrontation states and underlining its full adherence to Arab summit decisions. It was still unclear here, however, which Arab states would attend the meeting in addition to Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The Voice Palestine Radio, organ of the PLO, complained in broadcast from Cairo yesterday that the organisation had not been invited. Gulf diplomatic sources said Qatar and Bahrain were expected to attend the meeting. Observers said that if this was confirmed, it would lend credence to press reports here that a meeting of Gulf Arab foreign ministers might be held in Riyadh to coincide with the larger meeting.

After talks in Spain
Schmidt: Let Communists vote

COLOGNE, Jan. 7 (Agencies). — West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said here today that Communists formed part of the West European "democratic spectrum" even though it was not in Western Europe's interest to strengthen communism, and that the Spanish Communists should be included in that spectrum. Speaking over Cologne Radio after his return from a brief visit to Spain, where he talked with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez, Herr Schmidt said: "If I were a Spaniard, I would want the Communists to stand for election in that country, if only for the public revelation of their strength." Earlier today, in an interview from Madrid carried by Hamburg Radio, Herr Schmidt said he felt it was too early to back Spain's desire for full membership of the European Economic Community (EEC). The precondition for joining the EEC was respect of democratic rights in the applicant country, which must have completely democratic structures, he said. "That point", he said, "has not yet been reached in Spain." But he added there is reason to hope that Spain would reach that stage "in the foreseeable future." Herr Schmidt met for one hour today with the king and Senor Suarez. He had talks yesterday with the First Secretary of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, Felipe Gonzalez. The West German chancellor was vacationing in southern Spain prior to his visit here. In his talks, Herr Schmidt advised the Spanish government to work with the Communist Party and an amnesty for Spain's estimated 200 political prisoners. He expressed satisfaction over Spain's rapid moves in the last six months from dictatorship towards democracy, but felt full democracy still did not exist. The sources said the West German leader did not offer financial aid to help Spain out of the economic problems which jeopardise the country's peaceful emergence from 40 years of dictatorship under the late Gen. Franco. Herr Schmidt advised the Spanish government to allow free and strong trade unions to help it work out a social pact with workers and to check labour unrest and inflation. His advice came as Prime Minister Suarez prepared to negotiate with leftwing opposition parties who demand legal status for the Communist Party and an amnesty for Spain's estimated 200 political prisoners.

Washington denies Israel deceiving U.S. through shady arms deals

TEL AVIV, Jan. 7 (AFP). — The United States and Israel today denied a report that Israel was exporting modified versions of sophisticated American military equipment to other countries. The Christian Science Monitor newspaper reported yesterday that the Israeli Shafir missiles exported to Chile were only slightly modified versions of the A4M 9D-G made in the U.S. In Washington, however, a State Department official said Israel was "not deceiving" the U.S. But the State Department confirmed yesterday that negotiations were in progress to regulate Israeli exports of military equipment based on U.S. technology or manufactured under licence.

France, Egypt arms talks progress

CAIRO, Jan. 7 (AFP). — This week's talks here between French Defence Minister Yvon Bourges and his Egyptian counterpart, Gen. Mohammad Abdul Ghani Al Gamassi, have spotlighted Egypt's growing cooperation with France in the development of its arms production. These talks, scheduled to reopen tomorrow when Mr. Bourges returns from a trip up the Nile Valley, centred mainly on the setting up of a sophisticated Egyptian arms industry. France would be Egypt's partner in the technical and commercial fields while financial help would be provided by the Arab Industrial Organisation (AIO). This group, set up just after the October 1973 war, is made up of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. It aims to create an arms industry in Egypt, using local manpower, Western -- apparently largely French -- technology and Arab money. According to French delegation sources, Mr. Bourges has been assured by the Egyptian authorities that AIO would provide the funds this year to build the first industrial installations and that the first assembly lines should be moving within a year. The walls and buildings of the future factories are reportedly ready for the approximately 400 French technicians who will arrive as soon as the Arab bankers have given the green light. And in this connection, the upcoming visit of French President Giscard d'Estaing to Saudi Arabia from Jan. 22-25, is viewed here as particularly significant for Egypt. In the aftermath of the October War Egypt received 38 Mirages from France with Saudi Arabia acting as intermediary. The last Egyptian order-financed again by Saudi Arabia -- added up to \$1 billion and covered the import of equipment and about 15 Mirage F-1, planes still undelivered. A demonstration flight of Gazelles and Mirages, flown by Egyptian pilots trained in France, took place Thursday at the Tantah air base, in the Nile Delta. French guests were reported very favourably impressed by the technical quality of the performance.

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Drama & patience

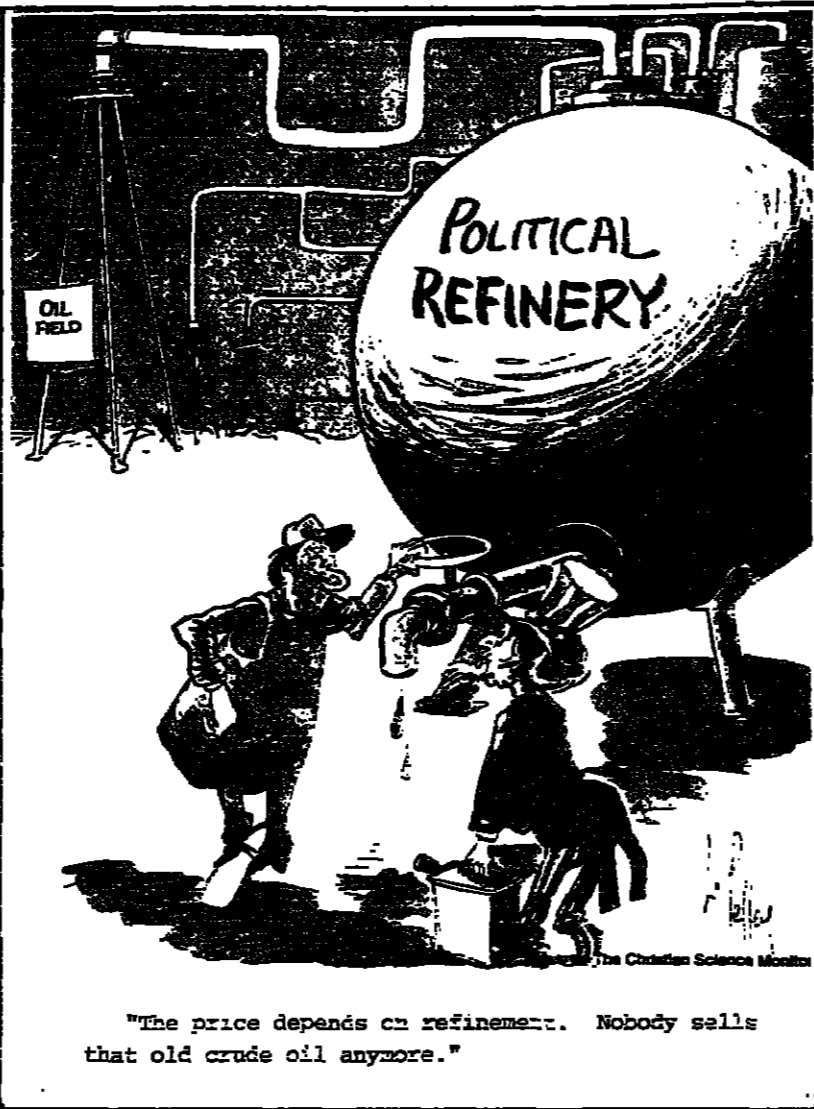
The foreign and defence ministers of Arab front-line states and their oil-producing financial backers will gather in Riyadh tomorrow to cap the end of one of the most agonising periods of modern Arab history. There is a kind of poetic grace in how this Arab meeting follows the OPEC meeting in Qatar and the two Arab summits in Cairo and Riyadh. Those previous gatherings paved the way for what can now be a series of fresh consultations to bring cohesion and clout to an emerging Arab strategy that has so far enjoyed only a measure of coordination.

The symbolism of holding tomorrow's meeting in Riyadh should not be lost to Israel or the Western nations that back Israel while playing up to the Arabs so coyly. The marriage of Arab political demands and Arab economic power has been stressed again during the past few weeks by the actions and words of the Saudi Arabians, and the Saudi position now moves in tandem with the consensus political strategy of the Arab World. The coordination of Arab political, economic and military strategies will not, at first, cause Israel to do anything new or reasonable, because Israel has perfected the art of closing its eyes in the face of the truth. The emerging Arab cohesion, however, should primarily impress upon the United States and the West European nations that there is a clear point beyond which Arab patience turns into exasperation, and it is high drama for the Arabs to make this point in a meeting in Riyadh.

While the thousand and one pundits of the West will now surely write that "never has the time been more promising for peace in the Middle East," the Riyadh gathering will, in fact, underline the point that rarely have the many Arab elements necessary for peace been lined up in such a positive and clear manner. But it is meaningless to look at the Middle East and proclaim yet again that the time is ripe for peace, because peace is a game played by two, and the Israelis have yet to make any meaningful gestures for peace. To the contrary, every new day there are signs in Israel that point only towards continued conflict in the Middle East and confusion in the house of Zion.

The Israelis will have to sort out their own internal disarray, but they should keep in mind that the Arabs are unlikely to spend another few years watching the Israelis build more settlements in occupied Arab territories, continue the blasphemy of Jerusalem and turn the Middle East into the biggest arms depot of the world. There is a limit to Arab patience, and it is nearing.

Three years ago, the United States, through the person of Henry Kissinger, made a fundamental decision to play its cards in the Middle East primarily via the Egyptians and the Saudi Arabians. Today, the Saudis and the Egyptians have coordinated their policies and have also fostered a degree of Arab coordination that is awesome in both its recent novelty and its potential significance for the region. It seems to us that the time is nearing when the Arabs must go to Washington and ask the Americans to produce their share of the peace results that were clearly promised by Dr. Kissinger. This will inevitably turn the focus onto the Israelis, who shall be able to defy the entire world only insofar as the world is passive. The meeting of Arab ministers in Riyadh tomorrow will serve the whole world if it makes it clear to the Americans at this point that the Arabs are willing to cooperate for peace, but that cooperation is a two-way street that must see a flow of traffic in both directions.



British firm to build power stations in Jordan

LONDON, Jan. 7 (R). — A British engineering company said Thursday it had won contracts for the construction of power stations in Jordan, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering said it would build a 24 million diesel power station in Irbid, with the first of the two diesel generating sets expected to begin running by June 1.

It was being constructed for the Irbid Electricity Department.

Seven sub-stations are to be constructed for the Jordanian Electric Power Company around Amman, while in Oman a sub-station is also to be built, the company said.



A bulldozer of the Ministry of Public Works clears snow-bound roads in the southern regions Friday. (JT photo).

Snow closes roads in southern regions

AMMAN (JNA). — Heavy snow has closed the Ma'an-Shobak, Tafleh-Rashadiyeh, and Tafleh-Jurf Al Daraweesh roads, Public Security sources announced Friday.

The Public Security Directorate cautions citizens not to drive on the roads leading to Tafleh and Ma'an because of the heavy snow that has accumulated there. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Public Works, in cooperation with the Public Security Force, has already cleared the road between Ma'an and Ras Al Nagah. Continuous work is being carried out to clear the rest of closed roads in the Kingdom, especially in the southern regions, the sources added.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Al Dustour of Amman observes that the confiscation of parts of the occupied Arab territories is now assuming urgent proportions. The Israeli leaders are feverishly calling for the seizure of these lands to build settlements on them for new Jewish emigrants.

An example of this trend is Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's latest call for the establishment of two settlements in the Jordan Valley, one on the Beisara-Jericho road and the other between Jericho and Jerusalem.

Al Dustour continues: "This phenomenon of hastening settle-

ment expansion in the occupied Arab areas is an indicator that cannot possibly be overlooked in assessing Israel's intentions towards the expected international moves to bring peace to the region.

"It uncovers the Israeli leaders' old tactics of confronting peace with a policy of fait accompli, which has been rejected time and again by the world community in the form of United Nations resolutions to recognise any changes by the Israelis in the occupied areas."

In a related commentary, also in Al Dustour, Arafat Hijazi refers to two conflicting Israeli statements of late. He says the mayor of occupied Arab Jerusalem, Teddy Kollek, said he was optimistic that a real peace between the Israelis and the Arabs would be achieved.

He also said that for the sake of a real peace, Israel will make more territorial concessions than the world expects.

At the same time the principal opposition party, the Herut, led by Menachem Begin, concluded its congress by declaring its refusal to relinquish any portion of the occupied territory. Mr. Begin was also reported to have said that the next few years will be decisive in determining Israel's future.

Mr. Hijazi wonders "who of the two men was telling the truth and who of them was telling lies, Kollek or Begin.?"

"The truth is that both men are telling the truth and both of them are liars!"

"The mayor of occupied Jerusalem was telling the truth when he expressed optimism that the Middle East will see peace through the continued state of no peace, no war, which brings peace for Israel alone... He is lying when he said Israel will make territorial concessions."

"The leader of Herut was telling the truth when he declared that Israel will make no territorial concessions. He was also telling the truth when he said that the next few years will decide the future of Israel!"

"The contradiction between the two men's opinions is self-evident. If Menachem Begin knows the meaning of the determination of Israel's future within the conception mentioned, then he was telling the truth. But if he knows it within different conception -- one of continued aggression and occupation -- then the next few years are bound to teach the Begin and the rest of the Israeli 'hawks' that real peace bears only one complete slogan -- a dove, an olive branch and a complete withdrawal from the land of others," the writer concludes.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.S. dollar	320.0	331.0
U.K. sterling	562.0	589.0
Swiss franc	135.1	135.5
German mark	140.5	141.2
French franc	66.5	67.1
Italian lira		
(for every 100)	37.7	37.9
Syrian pound	82.5	82.9
Lebanese pound	115.0	116.3
Saudi riyal	94.6	95.0
Iraqi dinar	94.5	95.5
Kuwaiti dinar	1160.0	1170.0
UAE dirham	83.5	84.0
Libyan dinar	730.0	745.0
Egyptian pound	468.0	478.0

STANDARD ADVERTISING RATES FOR AMMAN MARKETPLACE

The Advertising Department of the Jordan Times announces that as of Jan. 11 the following standard reduced rates shall apply to advertisements in the Amman Marketplace section, at a standard size of 4 cm x 1 column per advertisement:

rate for a minimum of 3 months: JD 45/month
 rate for a minimum of 6 months: JD 40/month
 rate for a minimum of 12 months: JD 35/month

These prices shall apply only when there is a guarantee from the advertiser himself, or the advertising agency, that the ad will not be cancelled before the expiry of the minimum period agreed upon. Otherwise, the parties concerned will be liable for the difference between these special prices and those normally charged for the whole period during which the advertisement appeared in the said section.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISING AGENCIES

The Advertising Department of the Jordan Times wishes to inform advertisers and advertising agencies that the new advertising rates, starting from Jan. 11, 1977 will be as follows:

	Local rates, JD	International rates, JD
Front page	1. 500	2. 500
Last page	0. 900	1. 750
inside pages	0. 500	1. 350
Page two	0. 650	1. 600

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HELP WANTED

Wanted: a well educated sales-girl, 20-25; English speaking; must: knowledge of typing helpful. For an interview please contact: AD DAR Tel. 39095

Also wanted: a janitor-boy 15-20 yrs.

THE AMERICAN WOMEN OF AMMAN
 Will meet Monday, Jan. 10, at 10 a.m. in the Ballroom of the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel.
 Programme, De Nicole Viadda, the History of Jordan and the Middle East.

SCANDINAVIA SHOWROOM

CIVIL DEFENCE ST. - TEL. 68890 - P.O.B. 3314 AMMAN - JORDAN

Luxurious furniture handcrafted in Sweden. Assortment of office and home furniture for all your needs. We also specialize in interior decoration.

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Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: "مركز الصحافة"

Whence arose the West's strange notions about the Arabs?

The Arabs and the English, published in London two weeks ago, is a book that seeks to trace the... entire English-speaking world. The author, in his preface, says the book is concerned with the... portraits of Arabs, and that his aims are to "contribute to the general quest of understanding the fundamental British attitude towards the Arabs, and it is hoped that this study will be a basis for further enquiries into the image of Arabs." Dr. Sari Nasir is a Palestinian born in the... of Lifta, a suburb of Jerusalem. He is now Chairman of the Department of Sociology and Philosophy at the University of Jordan. He was interviewed by Rami G. Khouri, who writes the following review:

The Arabs and the English, by Sari J. Nasir
Longman, 174 pp., illustrated.

doesn't take a very deep right or wrong, good or bad; I at Western cultures to see their "image" of the Arab... around a handful of stereotypes, primarily the Arab as a... (an alluring, sexy... the female counter-...), a mysterious but noble... bedouin, a sneaky thief-in-... city rogue forever flit-... from one dark-shadowed al-... another, a plundering... warrior, or a romantic... sheikh whose life today is... less than Arabian Nights'... and hedonism with air-... and annual shopping... to Oxford Street thrown in... of modern civilisation.

The image of the Arab in the West has been long in the making and it is always changing... evolves, sometimes for delib-... erate purposes. But the... is clear, and, more often... not, it is unfavourable.

Dr. Sari J. Nasir has gone into history to dig out the... and development of this... of the Arabs in Britain.

concern was to trace how... image has developed in the... of English-speaking peoples, his initial research revealed the image of the Arab was... the product of British... rs, poets and travellers, and the image was subsequently... continuously exported from... in to the entire English-speak-... world.

Nasir says he first became... ested in the study of images... he went to do his under-... studies in the United States... 1952. By 1960, when he was... his PhD dissertation at the... ersity of Illinois, he disco-... vered that the image of the Arab... ica had in fact evolved... gh English works that found... way to America, or that had... nced American writers.

As when he received a Ford... ation fellowship in 1972, he... ent to Britain to trace the... pment of this image in Bri-... tain. He explains: "When... t to Britain in 1972, I was... g to do two things. First, I... ed to develop a theory of... construction; and second, I... ted to write a book on how... age of the Arabs was deve-... in Britain.

have tried hard not to inject... judgements into the book... not want to say to the Bri-... eople, what you are doing is

the Arabs were portrayed in books, but it includes a long con-... cluding chapter on how the image... of the Arabs in the 20th century... has been further influenced by... the movies, the press, the adven-... tures of such men as Lawrence, Philby and Glubb and the at-... tempts of Zionism to manipulate... this image for political gain.

The book is painstakingly ob-... jective, empirical and factual. This... makes it all the more valuable, but takes it out of the realm of... those light reading books that are... carted to the beach. The tone of... the book is serious and clear-... headed. It is organised chronologi-... cally, and packed with direct... quotations from the literature that... Dr. Nasir has thoroughly re-... viewed.

He traces the origins of the... Arab image back to the Bible and... the ancient classical authors, such... as Herodotus, the Greek historian... who in the sixth century B.C. wrote... about Arabia as the "land of... spices", because spices were of... great value in his native Greece... (spices then were to Greece as... oil today is to the West?) But... Herodotus wrote of Arabia as a... strange land of fantasies and per-... il, where winged creatures guard-... ed the spices, and colourful win-... ged snakes protected the franki-... nense trees. Herodotus said all... the air of Arabia was filled with... the odours of sweet spices and... perfumes.

The Romans in turn reported... that Arabian goods included spices, ivory, perfumes, gums and... precious stones, and they knew... Arabia as the "happy" country.

Dr. Nasir says "the Arab is... generally referred to in the Bible... as a wily politician whose main... intention is to control the trade... routes and the consequent wealth. He is also seen as a mercenary: the... enemies of Judas could 'hire... Arabs' against him (Maccabees... 5:59)." According to one historian... quoted by Dr. Nasir, most bib-... lical references portray Arabs as... nomads and 'turking' mercenar-... ies.

With the advent of Islam, the... author says, "it is believed that... St. John of Damascus, who was... Mohammad's contemporary, was... the first to spread the unfavour-... able portrayal of Mohammad and... Islam." Initial unfavourable... criticism of Islam came from... Christians living in the Middle East, and these criticisms were later... passed on to Europe and ultima-... tely "absorbed, adapted and... adopted by the Latinate Christian... West."

"A new awareness began to... develop about the Arabs in Eu-... rope," Dr. Nasir says, after the... period of direct contact between

Europe and the Arabs brought on... John Lewis Burckhardt, for ex-... ample, travelled throughout Syria, Egypt and Arabia (rediscovering... Petra en route) in the early 1800's. He spoke of the bedou as a true... Arab uncorrupted by city life, a... lover of poetry, oratory and elo-... quence. His favourable accounts... of bedouin life apparently attract-... ed others to go and see for them-... selves.

Hundreds of travellers followed, and many wrote about their ex-... periences, including such names... as Edward William Lane, Edward... Henry Palmer, William Wright, Robertson Smith, William Muir, Sir Richard Burton, Wilfred... Scaven Blunt, Charles Doughty, Robert Curzon, William Gifford... Palgrave, Austen H. Layard, Alexander William Kinglake, Eliot... Warburton, David Hogarth, Lady... Hester Stanhope, Isabel Burton and Lady Anne Blunt.

These people and others pro-... duced what Dr. Nasir calls "the... romantic image" of the Arabs. Though all had their own reasons... for writing, they invariably dwel-... led upon certain characteristics... that they saw in the Arabs. Lane... reinforced the image of the Arab-... ian Nights, while Burton portrayed... the desert Arabs more favourably... than the city Arabs. Burton also... said the Arab can be easily man-... ipulated, and the same suggestion... recurs in the works of many... English travellers who saw in the... Arabs a "purity" or "nobility" that... was also accompanied by a kind... of simplicity. Burton, Blunt and... Doughty offered portraits of the... Arabs that were, taken as a whole, "colourful and romantic."

Curzon's accounts of Egypt also... have an Arabian Nights flavour, and are full of tales about "slave... markets, the veiled harem, strange... sounds and eerie music." Palgrave... repeated the theme of the Arabs... as simple and naive, a stereotype, Dr. Nasir says, that was given... prominence in the narratives of some... of the more important people who... helped mould the image of the... Arabs in Britain.

Warburton had little respect for... the desert Arabs. Though he de-... scribes them as hospitable, "he por-... trays them in general as wild and... fierce."

Dr. Nasir sums up many of the... British travellers of the 19th cen-... tury as follows: "... they carried... with them certain preconceived... ideas about the Middle East... gleaned from the former travellers'... tales and the Arabian Nights, and... subsequently interpreted what... they saw in terms of these notions, usually against a background of... the Bible, as Christianity was in-... variably a strong characteristic in... these visitors.

"Secondly, their attitudes were... characterised by a sense of super-... iority, that of an advanced race, as the English considered them-... selves, mingling with inferior and... backward people. Thirdly, they ap-... peared to consider the East as... something akin to an amusement... park, where they could recline and... observe the natives at their lei-... sure."



Scene from the film Son of the Sheik (1926)

In the 20th century, Dr. Nasir... suggests that the image of the... Arabs continued to be formed by... the accounts of people such as... Lawrence, but on top of this he... introduced the element of how... Zionist aims in Palestine found it... useful to foster a bad image of the... Arabs in the minds of the British.

An unfavourable British image... of the Arabs was crucial to ful-... filling Zionist aspirations in Pale-... stine, and Dr. Nasir says this was... brought about by Zionist infiltra-... tion of British society at the be-... ginning of the 20th century in two... ways: the Poale Zion (Workers... of Zion) who worked their way... into the labour movement and the... Labour Party, and Chaim Weiz-... mann, who became an influen-... tial personal friend of many... members of the British ruling... class and aristocracy.

Another important medium of... communications that has signifi-... cantly influenced the Arabs' image... in Britain in the 20th century, the... author says, is the cinema. He... lists the progression and content... of films, many of them smash box... office hits, by which the image... of the Arab was continually de-... veloped and reinforced through-... out the 20th century.

The cinematic treatment starts... as early as 1898, with the film... A Street Arab, to be followed in... 1899 by Arabian Gun Twirler and... the 1902 movie Allabad: The Arab... Wizard, in which the Arab was... portrayed as a clever magician. From then on, pictures with either... Arab backgrounds or capitalising... on the still powerful image of the... Arabian Nights were produced... with unusual regularity. In the... films of the 20's, Dr. Nasir says, "the... Arabs were mostly portrayed as... belly dancers, lovers, bandits, robbers, pirates and as villains... against French and British hero-... ism in North Africa and Sudan."

Such films as The Sheik (1921),... were phenomenally successful, and... they naturally spawned imitations... and sequels. In the next 30 years, the... Arabs in Western films were... always associated with the themes... of lovers, mystery, virility, man-... liness, menacing marauders, trea-... chery in the desert, adventure, fantasy, flying carpets, genii, and... as much violence and thievery as... could plausibly be included in a... film.

In the 50's political themes en-... tered the movies, with the right... of the Jews to settle in Palestine... presented in such films as Sword... in the Desert (1949), and this... theme would recur in Exodus... (1960) and Rosebud (1975).

The image of the Arab was in-... fluenced by such other films as... Lawrence of Arabia (1962) and... Khartoum (1966), and "in all... these pictures the Arabs were por-... trayed dressed in flowing robes;... they were fierce looking and pos-... sessing alien values contrary to... Western beliefs."

Dr. Nasir ends his book with a... brief passage entitled "The End... of the Romantic Image," in which... he says that the image of the... bedou that was cultivated for so... long, and often so admirably, had... come to an end, or at least to a... standstill. The new image of the... Arab was created by films, the... press, the British soldiers who... came back from the Middle East, and the deliberate influence of... Zionism.

The author suggests that "at... present the image of the Arabs... is in flux in Britain," a develop-... ment due, he says, to many fac-... tors. He closes the book with the... hope that other scholars will pick... up where he left off and take up... the development of the image of... the Arabs in the West, "so that... we shall be better able to under-... stand the ways in which peoples... perceive one another."

The book is a goldmine of in-... formation for those interested in... tracing back the image of the... Arabs that now dominates the... Western world (if not the entire... world). Dr. Nasir makes it clear... that his is not an "activist" atti-... tude that wishes to tell people why... the West's romantic and unfavour-... able image of the Arab rebounds... to create "political disaster" for... all. He leaves this to others, to... the "propagandists" involved with... political tasks, and stresses that... his aim has been to provide the... foundation upon which future re-... search can be done.

He has provided us with a pio-... neering study both profoundly im-... portant and neatly done. Anyone... with an interest in the Middle East... will learn a great deal.

(The book is available in Am-... man at the Jordan Intercontinen-... tal Hotel bookshop).

BOOKS

At the end of the 16th century, the Arabs "were portrayed in trav-... ellers' accounts as a hostile and... dangerous element and part of the... harsh and unfriendly environment... surrounding travellers" in the Mid-... dle East region.

Travellers and scholars in the... 17th century provided much in-... formation about the Arabs, and... "the felonious and evil nature of... Arabs became a pronounced theme... in the accounts of early English... travellers." Dr. Nasir says that... the account of the Arabs by one... fellow, a tourist named William... Lithgow, "is reminiscent of what... the first American settlers reported... of the Red Indians."

In the latter part of the 17th... century, the twin themes of Arab... piracy and slavery became very... popular in England, with assort-... ed other portraits of Arabs as ho-... mosexuals, beggars and robbers.

The 18th century was domina-... ted by the tremendous impact of... the Arabian Nights, which has... carried through to our time.

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According to political observers

Carter's open policy will harm cabinet credibility



Jimmy Carter : Broad-grinned optimism ...

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — Jimmy Carter now intends to try something without precedent: He will as president allow his top people to speak out publicly and differ with him on major issues and policy matters.

This new approach already has surfaced in the transition -- with new key appointees Bert Lance, Andrew Young, Juanita Kreps and Patricia Harris taking some positions counter to that of their boss.

And now Mr. Carter's transition director of policy, planning and government liaison, Stuart Eizenstat, discloses that this expression of Mr. Carter's campaign commitment to "open government" will continue.

Mr. Eizenstat said he thought there should be some "limits" on what these top officials say, certainly in the field of foreign policy.

But he told a group of reporters over breakfast that open discussion of important issues would be a mark of this Carter administration -- to enable the public and the press to be "in" on the decision-making process and the alternative thinking and proposals, right from the very beginning.

This approach runs counter to the way administration policy and programme have usually been shaped in the past -- with the president and his staff and cabinet heads discussing their plans and goals privately and with differences usually being buried in these quiet, behind-closed-door sessions.

These openly held differences likely will end when the president decides on the course he will follow. But not always.

For example, new U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young is expected to hold to his position of wanting Vietnam to become part of the U.N. even after a U.N. vote is held on the subject and where the Carter position may be that of keeping the door closed to Vietnam.

In fact, Mr. Young has indicated he might resolve this problem merely by being absent on a day when the U.N. votes on that issue.

Also, Juanita Kreps and Patricia Roberts Harris, named as Commerce Secretary and Housing and Urban Development Secretary respectively, may continue to speak out if they decide that

Mr. Carter is not bringing a sufficient number of top-flight women into his administration.

However, Bert Lance, who will be director of the Office of Management and Budget, has indicated that while his approach to stimulating the economy -- a sizeable tax rebate but with only a few millions to be made available for a programme to give quick relief to the unemployed -- may not be adopted by the president, he will, indeed, sublimate his own personal opinions to whatever course the president finally decides to take to cure the nation's economic ills.

The president's out-in-the-open approach to decision making is aimed at:

-- Bringing confidence back to government by letting the people feel they are a part of the process.

-- Improving the final results by letting public criticism of the suggested alternatives enter into the decision-making.

However, there are critics here of such an open way of running the government. They contend that:

-- This may work on domestic matters -- but having any top public official other than the president speak out on foreign policy might well confuse other nations.

-- A cabinet member, for example, who is overruled by the president on a subject the two have spoken out on in public



... but how long will it last.

IT'S ALL GO FOR THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM) — The 300,000 inaugural invitations are starting to arrive in mail boxes across the country -- you can tell by their brown ink and recycled paper, but most of all by the inaugural seal, the Capitol rampart on the back of an eagle with a Carter-Mondale banner in his beak.

It's what one insider calls a "y'all come" inaugural, with a populist emphasis on turning Washington into one week-long black party from Jan. 18 to 22, both prior to and after the official inauguration Jan. 20.

Only 25,000 of the inaugural envelopes contain invitations -- to longtime friends and Carter supporters, politicians, and dignitaries -- to attend one of the six inaugural parties; 8,500 envelopes contain invitations to watch the parade from bleachers near the White House; and 5,750 contain invitations to attend one of the vice-presidential receptions (complete with Mrs. Walter Mondale's carrot cake). Each of these invitations enables the receiver to buy two tickets -- at \$25 each -- to the six inaugural parties and the vice-president's receptions.

More than 117,000 tickets without a price tag also are available for the presidential swearing-in

ceremony at the Capitol, but invitations are needed for those, too. According to the inaugural committee, 59,000 of them are reserved for members of Congress.

In addition, tickets will be needed to another event, a televised John F. Kennedy Centre gala being planned for Jan. 19, but not yet definite.

Among the celebrities being discussed to appear are Leonard Bernstein, Johnny Cash, Paul Simon, Paul Newman, Beverly Sills, Bette Davis, Stevie Wonder, James Dickey, Robert Shaw of the Atlanta Symphony and the Alvin Ailey dance company.

Meanwhile in this capital of diversity, a counter-inauguration is being planned by the Youth International Party (Yippies) and "Nobody for President Campaign." Its chief decoration will be a giant peanut, 16 metres long and 3 metres high.

Decorations will be more traditional at the six inaugural balls, where \$150,000, or half the cost of the 1973 inaugural balls, will be spent on things like a silver fringe arch at the Washington Hilton, swags of hot pink and red taffeta at the Mayflower and electrified paper lanterns on fishing poles at the National Visitors Center.

It'll be quite an inauguration!

The Visitor's Centre, a former railroad station, also will be the site of what the inaugural committee is billing as "the world's biggest square dance" on Jan. 21.

Rosalynn Carter, the wife of the president-elect, is enthusiastic about square dancing, and this party, to follow the opening of a Georgia state exhibit, will be free to all, although tickets will be required.

"Never before will so many people have such a chance to take part in the inauguration of a president," states Bardyl Tirana, inaugural co-chairman.

The committee is planning a host of other events, including an early morning prayer service on Inaugural Day at Lincoln Memorial conducted by Dr. Martin Luther King Sr. and Rev. Bruce Edwards of the Plains, Georgia, Baptist Church.

In addition, the committee hopes for a special film festival at the American Film Institute at Kennedy Centre and a day of ballet there. Washington National Cathedral will hold Bach concerts each day during the inaugural period, and there will be concerts for four hours each day at seven of the Smithsonian museums.

It'll be quite an inauguration!

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM) — Persons emerging from the Carter offices in Plains, Georgia, seem to think they know what Mr. Carter will do about the American economy when he gets to Washington. But since the versions we get from these persons differ, it seems to be a reasonable conclusion that on the subject of the economy Mr. Carter is keeping his thoughts to himself.

He is getting advice of many kinds from many sources. The old "New Dealers", the "liberals" and organised labour want him to concentrate on generating more jobs.

They cite the success Franklin Delano Roosevelt had with his strategy in the early '30s. His Ci-

villian Conservation Corps, Works Progress Administration (dubbed "leaf raking" by its critics) and Public Works Administration programme all did generate purchasing power and helped to revive the American economy from the bottom up. (He also did a lot of stimulating from the top down, especially by rearmament programmes.)

Business, industry and conservative interests in general are trying to push Mr. Carter to the opposite strategy of stimulating the economy by cuts in federal income taxes. They cite the remarkable success John F. Kennedy had with his tax cuts in the early '60s.

It was done in the expectation of six years of federal budget deficit. It stimulated the economy so successfully that the Treasury ran a net surplus -- until Lyndon

Johnson insisted on fighting the Vietnam war without balancing tax increases.

But would the strategy which worked in the '30s or the one which worked in the '60s be the right one for today? Is today's problem comparable to the ones which Roosevelt and Kennedy met by contrary measures?

American industry now produces at only about 80 per cent of capacity. Capital investment is languishing. Purchasing power has held up remarkably well. Retail trade is good, if not spectacular.

The number of jobs is growing steadily. Employment is increasing faster than unemployment.

Yet there is an air uneasiness abroad. Savings accounts are up in spite of inflation. People are hoarding rather than making long-term commitments.

The United States is not in a state of economic crisis. The rican economy is still expanding albeit slowly. The conditions more reminiscent of 1960 than 1932, but with one important difference. There was no dominating picture in the picture of the day. This is stagnation with

The ideal remedy would be measures which would reduce inflation and stimulate the economy. The wrong mix could do the opposite. The right mix opens the way to a new period of prosperity.

Roosevelt got it right in 1933. Kennedy got it right in 1961. Mr. Carter does as well in his White House lease will probably be good until January of

Can history help Carter solve U.S. economic ills?

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	Program
03:00	The Breakfast Show : News.
to	on the hour and 28 min.
06:30	after each hour.
17:00	News
17:15	This Week
17:30	Press Conference USA
18:00	Special English. News/Worlds and their Stories. Feature : Short Stories. News Summary.
18:30	Country Music USA
19:00	News and Topical Reports
19:15	Letters from Listeners
19:30	New York. New York
20:00	Special English. News/Worlds and their Stories
20:15	Music USA (Jazz)
21:00	News
21:10	This Week
21:30	Press Conference USA

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)

7:00	Morning melodies	15:00	Concert hour
7:30	News	16:00	Old favourites
7:40	Music	16:30	Easy listening
8:00	Sign off	17:00	Science report
12:00	Pop session	17:30	Pop session
13:00	News summary	18:00	News summary
13:05	Pop session	18:05	News reports round-up
14:00	News	18:30	American sounds
14:10	Radio magazine	19:00	News
14:30	Aspects of Arab civilization	19:10	Music
14:45	Music	19:30	Sign off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors :	Hayat (24636)
	Ghassan (24487)
Amman :	Firas (61912)
	Irbid :
	Mohammad Farhan (56303)
Irbid :	Zarqa :
	Sa'adeh
	Adnan Halbouni (2460)
	Naji Rawashdeh
Zarqa :	Jaber Ibn Hayyan
	Taxis :
	Neel (44433)
	Tareq (23024)
Pharmacies :	Jerusalem (39655)
Amman :	Ahram (63911)
	Yacoub (44945)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Departures :	Arrivals :		
6:10	Munich, Frankfurt	6:50	Kuwait
6:50	Aqaba	7:55	Cairo (EA)
8:00	Beirut	8:20	Muscat, Dubai
8:00	Tref, Abadan, Jeddah	8:20	Dubai (Alitalia)
8:45	Cairo (EA)	8:30	Bangkok, Abu Dhabi
8:45	Beirut (MEA)	8:45	Karachi, Dubai
9:05	Rome (Alitalia)	8:50	Tehran
9:30	Aleppo, Damascus	9:40	Aqaba
10:30	Cairo	11:15	Beirut
10:40	Bucharest (Tarom)	11:35	Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI)
11:00	Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam	16:00	Aleppo, Damascus
11:30	Frankfurt, Copenhagen	17:15	Cairo
12:00	London	17:30	Frankfurt
12:30	Paris	19:40	Beirut (MEA)
13:30	Jeddah (SDI)	19:50	London (BA)
18:35	Abu Dhabi, Dubai		
20:35	Rawalpindi (BA)		

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue	" 24391-4
Fire headquarters	" 22090
First aid, fire, police	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 36881-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 39141
Najdeh, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41520
British Council	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37009
Goethe Institute	" 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44203
Amman Municipal Library	" 36111

BBC RADIO

GMT

05:00	News; Press Review	13:30	An Anthology of
05:15	Letterbox		tish Choirs
05:30	Music from Scotland	14:00	News
05:45	The World Today	14:09	Book Choice
06:00	News; Press Review	14:30	Terry Wogan's LP
06:30	Bob Holness Requests		owcase
07:00	News	15:00	Radio Newsreel
07:15	From the Weeklies	15:15	Saturday Special
07:30	Music from Scotland	16:00	News; Commentar
07:45	Letter from London	16:15	Saturday Special
07:55	A Musical Dictionary	17:00	News Summary
08:00	News; Reflections	17:02	Saturday Special
08:15	Europa	17:45	Sports Round-up
08:30	Dority Pepe	18:00	News
09:00	News; Press Review	18:15	Radio Newsreel
09:15	The World Today	18:30	Theatre of the Ai
09:30	Financial News	19:45	Intermezzo
09:45	Come to the Operetta	20:00	News; Commentar
10:15	Scotland '77	20:15	Business and Ind
10:30	Matthew on Music	20:30	My Music
11:00	News	21:00	A History of Foo
11:15	Europa	21:15	Command Perform
11:30	Appointment with Fear	21:40	Books and Writer
12:00	Radio Newsreel	22:00	News
12:15	Take it or Leave it	22:09	Music Now
12:45	Sports Round-up	22:40	The Week in Wal
13:00	News; Commentary	22:45	Sports Round-up
13:15	Business and Industry	23:00	World News; Cor
			ntary

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6 :	9:20	Cultural program	
6:00	Quran		
6:15	Children's programme		
6:45	Time to remember		
8:00	News in Arabic		
Channel 3 :	7:30	News in Hebrew	
7:30	Family programme	7:45	Varieties
8:30	Arabic series	8:30	Get some in
		9:10	Saturday variety
		10:00	News in English
		10:15	Movie of the we

هكذا صدقنا

EEC top spots shared out at Commission meeting

BRUSSELS, Jan. 7 (R). — The European Economic Community's (EEC) new 13-member Commission today divided between themselves the jobs they will handle for the next four years.

The share-out of jobs ranging from management of the EEC's common agricultural policy to its economic relations with the rest of the world lasted 14 hours.

Commission President Roy Jenkins, former British Home Secretary, said the session made "very good progress although we had little difficulties on one or two points at the very end." The main problem was with the allocation of the less glamorous portfolios.

The key posts went to former Commission President Francois-Xavier Ortoli of France who was made responsible for EEC economic and monetary affairs, West Germany's Wilhelm Haferkamp who took over external relations, and Finn Olav Gundelach of Denmark who was given agriculture.

Claude Cheysson of France will handle relations with the Arab world. Italian Commissioner Lorenzo Natali was given special responsibility for overseeing EEC membership talks which have already opened with Greece and are expected to be extended to Portugal and Spain.

Mr. Jenkins will disclose the Commission's proposed programme for 1977 to the European parliament next week.

W. GERMAN INFLATION PLUMMETS

WIESBADEN, West Germany, Jan. 7 (R). — West Germany's inflation rate dropped to 3.9 per cent last year, the lowest figure for six years, the government statistics office announced today. In 1975 the rate was six per cent. The country's inflation is the lowest in the nine-member European Economic Community and the second lowest, after Switzerland in the Western world.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

● WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (R). — A team of World Bank officials is to visit Hanoi later this month to investigate the Vietnamese economy and assess the country's financial needs, a bank spokesman said today. The fact-finding mission is being sent at the invitation of the Vietnamese government, which became a member of the bank last year.

● BRUSSELS, Jan. 7 (AFP). — The new 200-mile maritime zone and tough agricultural matters are two of the biggest problems to be dealt with by the European Economic Community (EEC) Commission, its new President Roy Jenkins said today. He told newsmen his initial discussions with his 12 colleagues led to no major divergences, and he believed the commission would work as a cohesive force.

● TEL AVIV, Jan. 7 (R). — The Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean has been reduced in recent months, the afternoon newspaper Maariv said today. The paper's military correspondent quoted Western sources as saying the number of Soviet warships and service vessels has been reduced from its peak level of 65 vessels to 39 -- about what it was at the beginning of 1973. The sources said the drop was due to normal reductions in numbers during the winter, coupled with the end of the fighting in Lebanon and reduced tensions in the Mediterranean area.

● ISLAMABAD, Jan. 7 (AFP). — Legislative elections will be held in Pakistan on Mar. 7 and 10, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto announced here late today. As a preliminary to the elections, the National Assembly will be dissolved on Jan. 10 and the provincial assemblies on Jan. 13. (Pakistani Senators are elected by the provincial assemblies). It will be the first time citizens have voted since Mr. Bhutto and his Pakistani Peoples Party (PPP) came to power five years ago.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

British government bonds were a firm feature in fairly large turnover but equities weakened on profit-taking, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was down 5.6 at 362.2 after touching 358.7.

Demand for government bonds snowballed after news that the government broker's supplies of the long 'tap' stock had run out after four trading days. The 'tap' treasury 15-1/4 pct 1996A ended 1-3/8 points higher at 101-1/8 while other longs firmed up to 1-1/4 points. Shorts added up to 1/2.

Trading in equities was relatively active, with profit-taking welcomed by dealers who were short of stock. Closing levels were above the day's lows reflecting technical factors, dealers said.

GEC was fairly active after details of the 178 mln stg capital reconstruction was announced. It closed 14p down at 166.

Thorn, Guest Keen and Hawker were each 8p off. Beecham and ICI finished unchanged while Dunlop, B.P. and Shell were narrowly higher.

Gold shares were quietly firm with isolated issues off the top.



TURNING OF THE TIDE? -- White Rhodesians demonstrate in Salisbury's Cecil Square Friday calling for Prime Minister Ian Smith to withdraw from politics. (AP wirephoto).

Sources consider statement significant

Nyerere assures Richard of end to war if majority rule is achieved

DAR ES SALAAM, Jan. 7 (R). — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere today assured British envoy Ivor Richard that the guerrilla war in Rhodesia would stop once true majority rule had been achieved there.

Mr. Richard, Chairman of the adjoined Geneva conference, today held 90 minutes of discussions with President Nyerere, who is Chairman of the five "front line" African countries around Rhodesia.

After the meeting a presidential spokesman told reporters: "The British government has been assured once again by President Nyerere that once a majority government has been formed in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia), a government that represents a true transfer of power to the people of Zimbabwe, then the armed liberation struggle will come to a halt."

Informed sources said this statement could be very significant because it seemed to go a long way towards providing the kind of assurance sought by South African Premier John Vorster in return for pressuring the Rhodesian white minority into accepting a settlement.

Mr. Vorster's main concern was to stop the expanding guerrilla war on his northern borders. He

wanted guarantees that the war would stop if he persuaded Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith to accept the British proposals. The sources added.

The public statement by President Nyerere, combined with an unexpectedly warm reception yesterday for Mr. Richard by the front-line leaders, seemed to indicate that Mr. Richard's mission was making significant progress.

The sources said President Machel's reception yesterday was much better and more accommodating than the British delegation had expected and that the front-line leaders appeared to be supporting the British initiative.

The key to the success of Mr. Richard's mission was now Mr. Vorster, the sources said, because he could persuade Mr. Smith to move away from his adherence to the original Anglo-American settlement plan, which has been rejected by the nationalists, and accept revised British proposals.

The latest plan involves a British resident commissioner to play a balancing role between blacks and whites in an interim government.

Mr. Richard, who has now completed the first phase of his six-nation tour, arrived tonight in Nairobi where he will have a weekend's rest and brief President Jomo Kenyatta and Foreign Minister Mungyu Waiyaki. He will then tour the six countries again next week.

All the nationalist leaders attending the Rhodesia Geneva talks except Bishop Abel Muzorewa will attend this weekend's summit of the front-line states in Lusaka, nationalist sources said today.

The summit is due to open tomorrow. The front-line states are Zambia, Tanzania, Angola, Mozambique and Botswana.

In a separate development, Botswana police arrested a 30-year-old U.S. citizen Lawrence Meyers, who crossed the border by train and said he deserted from the Rhodesian army, the Daily News reported in Gaborone today.

In an interview Mr. Meyers said that African nationalists were making "tremendous gains" in Rhodesia and that they "would score more successes as the war escalates."

He said that Britons, Australians, South Africans and Angolan Portuguese made up about 30 per cent of the Rhodesian army, which also included at least 50 Americans.

Italian unions declare war on legally-imposed wage restraints

ROME, Jan. 7 (R). — One of Italy's senior trade union leaders said today the movement would fight with all means at its disposal to prevent legally-imposed wage restraint.

Signor Giorgio Benvenuto, Secretary General of the UIL union confederation, spoke after the rejection by union leaders yesterday of the government's latest wage restraint proposal.

The government, wanted to cut the frequency of automatic wage increases linked to rises in the cost of living from four times to twice a year. It argued that this would cut Italy's inflation rate of more than 20 per cent by eight per cent, and reduce labour costs by six per cent.

Signor Benvenuto, opening a conference of factory-floor union representatives here, declared:

"We must be extremely clear: We will not allow something which belongs to the free and autonomous bargaining process to be regulated by law.

"If the government resorts to a legislative initiative, we will use our force, we will resort to all forms of mobilising the workers to fight it," he said.

Absurdity's loophole

By Bassam Bishri

Mideast peace jigsaw

This, hopefully, is the first of a weekly column by Jordan Times' staff member Bassam Bishri. It is really a struggle with the idea that since the world is, by common consent, absurd (i.e., made up of a collection of unrelated, orderless, events), how does one explain the surprising observation sometimes that disparate phenomena seem to be working for, and heading towards, one coherent conclusion? If the world is absurd should these surprises be viewed as loopholes in the absurd?

I, for one, do not believe 1977 will see a peace settlement in the Middle East. Two reasons support me in this conclusion.

The first is a subjective hunch, and the second is what the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung told me in a dream.

Hunches are not really reasons, so that 'reason' can go.

What Tableman Mao (my dreamhouse is not furnished with chairs) told me went like this: "X+X=X". Since I don't know any Chinese I understood nothing of what he said. So much for my second reason.

Which leaves me with no reasons for why I think 1977, which is now almost unanimously thought will be the year of Middle East peace, will not be so at all.

Just over a month ago peace in the Middle East would have been the most unlikely subject to be considered by any reputable

commentator. Now everybody, well almost everybody, speaks of the matter as if it were the most natural development in politics of the area. It gives me an eerie feeling. As if there were a world conspiracy behind the timing of seemingly random events which began suddenly, about a month ago, to accumulate and hurl one's expectation to the certainty of such peace.

If Dr. Henry Kissinger were still around the globe the phenomenon would be explained itself away. But since the "chess is now lame" what could account for dramatic surge of all this confident talk of peace?

As I said, we have a sure prospect of peace but with no reasons for why it is more natural to speak of peace than of war.

The thing which perplexes me most is irritating observation that once, around the end of the first week of December, the United Nations called for the reconvening of a Geneva conference every sort of stater and act, directly or indirectly supporting idea of peace, began to bombard the world of international news agencies.

Not that I am against peace. But when everybody was so enthusiastic to their penny's worth to the peace march had been denied these gems of wisdom so long?

Coincidences in this world are truly striking. They are like the coincidence of a jumble of variously-sized cardboard pieces turning into a coherent picture; we call a jigsaw puzzle.

New Peking posters demand return of Teng Hsiao-ping

By Rene Flipo

PEKING, Jan. 7 (AFP). — Big-character posters in Peking this evening demanded the "return" of Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping, the former vice premier dismissed last April for "right deviationism".

These posters were put late today in the centre of the city facing the funeral wreaths placed earlier at the entrance to the Forbidden City to commemorate the first anniversary tomorrow of the death of Premier Chou En-lai.

"We hope the Communist Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng will take measures to allow for the return of Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping," the posters said.

They demanded in general that the entire Teng Hsiao-ping affair of last spring be "cleared up".

"Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping was dismissed after the events at Tien An Men following attacks against him by the gang of four," the posters said.

Dense crowds had gathered to read the posters despite the darkness and freezing cold.

Riots broke out on Tien An Men square last April 5, when tens-of-thousands of people had come to place funeral wreaths in memory of Mr. Chou En-lai during the Festival of the Dead. The crowds clashed violently with security forces.

The demonstrators destroyed vehicles and set fire to buildings. Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping, First Vice Premier and Party Vice Chairman, was blamed for the incident and dismissed on April 7.

Several big-character posters in the past two days called for "re-establishing the historical truth" and affirmed that the Tien An Men affair, which the official press had for a long time presented as "counter-revolutionary", was in fact a "revolutionary struggle".

STAMPS TO COMMEMORATE CHOU EN-LAI

HONG KONG, Jan. 7 (R). — China will issue a set of four stamps tomorrow to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of Premier Chou En-lai, the New China News Agency reported today. Mr. Chou died on Jan. 8 last year.

The posters now referred to Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping as "comrade".

Representatives of the masses said in the posters this evening that when Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping was First Vice Premier in early 1973, the "problems" of his past and of his attitudes during the Cultural Revolution had already been resolved.

But the "gang of four" still slandered him, and that could no longer be tolerated, the posters declared.

"We hope the party Central Committee will clear up this question," they added.

These posters appeared after the

tone of the official press came gradually less and less favourable to Mr. Teng. Officially were distributed to readers last month tell to ignore in past issues of "counter-revolutionary" at italist reader" linked v Teng Hsiao-ping's name.

He is no longer mentioned publicly, although before the of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and her accomplices October, he had been like former President Liu Shao former defence minister I

The official press also the gang of four" led by an Mao Tse-tung's widow ing directed the criticism Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping "the instead of conforming to the es of the late Chairman M

The last official to mer "criticism of Teng Hsiao-a public speech was Pekin or Wu Teh, in early Dec

He was also the one v over the public address sy April 5 to break up the rators and denounce Mr.

Diplomats in the capital the mayor of Peking may led on to explain himself subject.

Kuwaiti GDP falls by 6%

KUWAIT, Jan. 7 (R). — Kuwait's gross domestic product (GDP) declined by more than six per cent last year because of a fall in the state's oil revenues, according to figures published here today.

The newspaper Al Watan, quoting sources at the Kuwait Planning Board, said the country's GDP, which is the total value of goods and services produced at home, stood at 3,028 million dinars (about \$6 billion) in 1975/76 compared with 3,229 million dinars (about \$6.4 billion) in the previous year.

It said the decline in the GDP, which does not include income from abroad, resulted from a 12 per cent fall in oil revenues which accounts for more than 75 per cent of the total product.

Income from other sectors rose by 14.7 per cent in the same period, it added.

Quoting the same sources, the newspaper said the surplus in the trade balance for the year ending June 30, 1976 stood at 2,493 million dinars (about \$5 billion).

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